December 28, 2000

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FDA Commissioner Jane Henney
Docket No. 00P-1211/CP1
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Comments for Docket # 00P-1211/CP1 - Genetically Engineered Food

There was just another article in the Chicago Tribune about Starlink Corn getting into various products in Japan. This and other releases of genetically engineered foods without labels are unethical and should be stopped.

I am writing to submit my concerns about FDA's regulation of genetically engineered (GE) foods (FDA Docket #00P-1211/CP1). To protect my ability to choose, all GE foods should be labeled. I want mandatory pre-market safety testing on all GE foods. Additionally, I want a moratorium on the development of new GE foods until long-term health and environmental safety tests are required.
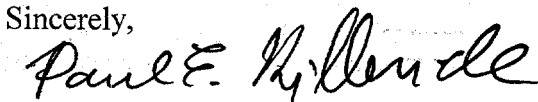
Studies show that GE foods could create new toxins, antibiotic resistance, allergic reactions, and other dietary risks for consumers, and therefore should not be generally recognized as safe (GRAS).

Without mandatory labeling, individuals with ethical or religious dietary concerns may be unwittingly consuming foods that contain genes from other species.

In addition to health risks, GE foods pose a significant threat to the environment because of transgenic pollution. Genetic contamination of wild plant species threatens biodiversity. Release of genetically engineered crops should stop. It is obvious they are not controlled (e.g. Starlink).

The FDA should change its policy so that labeling of genetically engineered foods is mandatory. Release of genetically engineered crops should stop until they can be controlled.
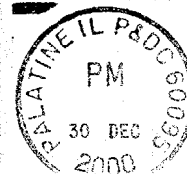
Sincerely,

Paul E. Kilbride, Ph.D.

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